Pioneer

New Entrance
Huff Construction is continuing its work at reconstructing our main entrance. The next steps will be installing lights in the foyer, laying the bricks, and putting in the new windows. After the entrance area and front wall is complete, work will begin on the structure for the canopy. The base will have pre-cast columns on the west side of the sidewalk and the canopy will be attached. We look forward to a grand Re-Opening in June!

Statewide Study
Dr. Phil Hatlen, a consultant, gave his final report to the SD Board of Regents the end of March. Dr. Hatlen worked with a Task Force of 30 parents, teachers, special education directors and other professionals who are interested in improving services to children with vision loss. Dr. Hatlen told the Regents the SD School for the Blind and Visually Impaired is the natural hub for all specialized vision services and should explore additional ways to be a statewide resource to all students who have a vision loss. Dr. Hatlen commended South Dakota on the early intervention services and the production of Braille and large print materials. He described the development of the Braille Instructor program as a unique means of providing Braille instruction. He noted the expertise of our staff, the quality of our assessment, and summer programs, and the efforts to serve children who are not on the campus.

He recommended the following for the School for the Blind and Visually Impaired:
1) Expand the outreach staff by four additional Vision Consultants. 2) Expand the Assessment Team so that needs can be met more easily. 3) Ensure that the large numbers of visually impaired students who are not receiving direct services from a qualified teacher of the visually impaired are being appropriately served. 4) Ensure that all visually impaired students are assessed in the areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum, and receive instruction in those areas of need. 5) Explore additional ways in which the School can serve as a statewide resource for all blind and visually impaired students.

All of these recommendations are in line with our school’s strategic plan “Access to Quality”. The Board of Regents will expect the school to develop a plan for addressing these recommendations by their June meeting.
Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired News

The Foundation is a nonprofit corporation founded in 1978 with the purpose of expanding social, recreational, and educational opportunities for students who are blind or visually impaired. The Foundation has an existing endowment that generates income to allow contributions to be given year after year.

You can support students who are blind or visually impaired by making an immediate impact on the opportunities and enrichment activities in one of the following ways.

**Memberships:** Become a member!

- **Sustaining Member:** (voting) Annual contribution of $50 or more
- **Lifetime Member:** (voting) Contributions of $500 or more in a one-time payment or the installment option
- **Patron:** (non-voting) Donation of any amount is appreciated.
- **Bequest/Memorial:** Remember your loved ones or friends with a memorial.
- **Devise of Assets:** Share your real estate and/or investments.

For more information contact: South Dakota Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 423 17th Avenue SE, Aberdeen SD 57401; toll free at 1-888-275-3814.

**New Foundation Members (9/30/07 -3/25/08)**

- **Sustaining and Patrons**
  - Aberdeen Lioness Club, Aberdeen SD
  - Sari and Rich Merriman, Aberdeen SD
  - Tiffany Entertainment Blockbuster, Aberdeen SD
  - Plains Commerce Bank, Aberdeen SD
  - Kyburz – Carlson Construction Co., Aberdeen SD
  - Lorraine Hale, Aberdeen, SD
  - Jeff and Erin Horstmeyer, Sioux Falls SD
  - Ted Kneebone, Aberdeen SD
  - Dirk Swanson, Swanson Electric, Aberdeen SD
  - Tom and Diane Agnitsch, Aberdeen SD
  - Rene Graf, Aberdeen SD
  - Academy Trophy, Aberdeen SD
  - Twin City Roofing Co., Inc, Aberdeen SD
  - E. C. Rhodes Insurance, Aberdeen SD
  - Don and Carmen Meyer, Aberdeen SD
- **Lifetime**
  - Ted and Carol Fowler, Aberdeen SD
  - Barbara Johnson, Aberdeen SD
  - Memorial for Keith F. Johnson
  - Memorial for LaVerne McLaughlin
  - Riki Nitz, Rapid City SD
  - Memorial for Brendan Heuertz
  - Justin and Amy Scepaniak, Aberdeen SD
  - Memorial for Mildred Stebbins
  - Lonald L. and Dr. Marva Gellhaus, Groton SD
  - Memorial for Kenton Gellhaus
    - Carolyn Nelson, Aberdeen SD
    - Leo and Darcey Lesher, Claremont SD
    - Michael and Lynn Sandvig, Aberdeen SD
    - Dean and Donna North, Aberdeen SD
    - Charles and Ginny Clark, Aberdeen SD
    - Dave Graf, Aberdeen SD
    - Steve and Marjorie Kaiser, Aberdeen SD
    - Riki Nitz, Rapid City SD

In appreciation for your generous support of the Foundation and for the enhancement of the School plaques were presented to the following people who have supported the South Dakota Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired include: Front Row: Dawn LaMee, Aberdeen, SD; Ted (Carol) Fowler, Aberdeen, SD; Dawn Brush (Dog Guide “Whimsey”), Aberdeen, SD; Back Row: Bruce (Janet) Johnson, Aberdeen, SD; Cathy (Ron) Hall, Aberdeen, SD; Charles (Ginny) Clark, Aberdeen, SD; Carl (Sheryl) Perry, Aberdeen, SD
Recognition

We Welcome! Tasha Bunke, as a Cook; Debra Roesch and Cory Lane as Residential Child Care Workers. Kathy Newman on board as Classroom Instructor and Sue Braun has become a long term sub.

Pheasantland Braille and Graphics

Outreach Vision Consultants Amy Scepaniak, Julie Van Dover, Riki Nitz, and Indira Dillon provided a “What’s It All About?” in-service for inmates with the Pheasantland Braille and Graphics unit at the SD State Penitentiary in Sioux Falls and with the Best Cell’s unit at the Yankton Federal Prison Camp. The in-service included a variety of hands-on blindfold and vision simulation experiences with low vision devices, Orientation and Mobility, Braille and tactile graphics, academic concepts, and daily living skills. The inmates readily participated in all activities, demonstrating interest and asking great questions. These prison units produce large print, braille, and tactile graphics for South Dakota students with visual impairments, as well as braille and tactile graphics for resource centers and schools in 15 states. We greatly appreciate their dedication and their hard work.

HONK!

Phyllis Heier, Music Instructor and Music Director for the Aberdeen Community Theater play HONK! will be traveling to the International Children’s theatre Festival in Toyama, Japan the summer to direct the play, which is a 60 minute musical based on the story of the Ugly Duckling.

Aberdeen Area Family Support Group

“Language and Early Intervention” was the topic for the February meeting of the Family Support Group for Families in Aberdeen and surrounding areas. This was presented by Candice Lee, SDSBVI Speech Language Pathologist. Parents were treated to 5-minute Chair Massages and lunch was catered by the Meister Family. The program for the March meeting focused on “Quality Physical Education—A Necessity, Not a Luxury for the Well Being of Every Child.” Dessert was provided by the Zahm Family. The April meeting will feature Elaine Fritz, a parent from the Sioux Falls area who has a child who is deaf-blind. Elaine will be presenting on her experience as parent developing friendships and support, and the importance of finding people you connect with and understand. We look forward to hearing about Elaine’s experiences. A picnic at the SDSBVI playground area is planned for May. June’s program and date are still to be determined, but July’s meeting is scheduled for July 25 (last day of summer school at the SDSBVI). Keith Bundy, who is blind and is the Director of Student Development and ADA Academic Coordinator at Dakota State University, will be our presenter.

In the last newsletter, it was mentioned that SD NAPVI, a newly formed Chapter of NAPVI, was organized. As a result of this, a mini-grant was submitted to the SD Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired to help and encourage parents to join NAPVI. Anyone can join the Chapter by simply becoming a member of NAPVI. The cost to become a member of NAPVI is $40. The Foundation has agreed to “match” any interested parent by paying half of their membership for the first year. Look for more information coming to parents very soon! If you would like more information about joining this group of parents, its activities, or possible steps in the development of a similar group in your area, contact Amy Scepaniak at 626-2580 or email her at scepania@sdsbvi.northern.edu.

For more information on NAPVI, go to www.spedex.com/napvi/.
Student News

Student Council leadership selected in the fall were:
President: Wade Turner; Secretary: Waldon Halverson;
Vice-President: Chantell Heath; Steering Committee:
Waldon Halverson; Arts & Special Activities: Chantell
Heath and Clara Wren; Wellness Committee: Analis Dannen;
and Social Activities: Derek Turner and Wade Turner.
Advisor is Principal Mark Krogstrand

Student Council News and Notes

Thanks to the efforts of many students have:
raised $250 for the Salvation Army over the holidays
while ringing bells;
worked at the Family-Y Girls’ Basketball Tourney
concession stand with the Aberdeen Lioness Club;
sold Shamrock pins Muscular Dystrophy Association
attended the Mayor’s Advisory Committee for People
with Disabilities Awards Luncheon;
attended a Transition Project opportunity workshop;
continue to collect expired hunting licenses; and
enjoyed a Christmas supper out on the town.

SDAB Convention

Students Wade and Derek Turner along with
Sue Birrenkott, Transition Specialist spoke about
Project Skills and transition after High School to
those who attended the
South Dakota Association of the Blind’s Convention in
Brookings.

Students of the Quarters

Emery Long Crow was recognized in the
1st Quarter for the efforts made in
completing his homework before study hall
and the positive leadership shown in the
dorm setting with our younger students, and
kindnesses shown to all. Congratulations,
Emery!

Trevon Rinesmith was recognized in the
2nd Quarter for his steady progress with
his IEP goals and his enthusiasm and
passion for his school work. There is
nothing he would not try! Congratulations,
Trevon!

The Mikado

Students, as guests of The Aberdeen Arts Council,
attended a wonderful performance of “The Mikado”, a
comic opera written by Gilbert and Sullivan when it was
performed at the NSU Johnsons Fine Arts Center.

Honor Roll

Congratulations! Chantell Heath earned “Merit Roll”
award recognition for her efforts during the 2nd Nine
Weeks, with a 3.3 GPA (out of a possible 4.0) with her
academic classes, including classes at Central High
School.

Area Music Contest

Under the direction of Phyllis Heier; Analis Dannen
brought home a “I – Superior” for her piano solo, and the
ensemble group of Derek Turner, Wade Turner,
Analis Dannen, and Emery Long Crow also earned a
“I – Superior” for their efforts NSU at the Regional Music
Contest at Northern State University.

Fashionable hats were made by the students at the
“Wool Hat” making class sponsored by the City Parks
& Recreation Program. Students also enjoyed
participating in the “Silly Snake” making class this fall.
The School celebrated "Homecoming Week" with royalty being crowned and each day had a theme, including "hat day/favorite outfit day", "picture day", "treat day", "dress up day", and "Blue and Gold Day".

Happenings on Campus!

**TheaterWorks USA**
Performed "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!" for the enjoyment of students and staff. Sponsored by the SD Arts Council and the Arts & Special Activities Committee.

**Student Teacher**
NSU Student Teacher Sara Bakke and elementary students enjoying a book. Sara spent twelve weeks on campus.

**Coach McLaughlin and the Boy’s Track Team**

**Halloween Fun!**

**Coach Carlsgaard & Girl’s Track Team**

**King Emery Long Crow & Queen Clara Wren**

**Happenings on Campus!**

**TheaterWorks USA**
Performed "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day!" for the enjoyment of students and staff. Sponsored by the SD Arts Council and the Arts & Special Activities Committee.

**Student Teacher**
NSU Student Teacher Sara Bakke and elementary students enjoying a book. Sara spent twelve weeks on campus.

**“Sweetheart Royalty”**
Selected in a vote by their peers were King Jacob Bieber and Queen Kimberly Beckler; candy and stuffed animals topped off the day.

**“In the Spirit”**
Christmas Program featured both group and individual vocal and instrumental music.

**Deb Bretsch, Residential Child Care Staff, assists Derek Turner to create a special gift during “Christmas Sharing.”**

**Each fall, the Aberdeen Lions, Aberdeen Lioness, and NSU Campus Clubs put on a wonderful Welcome Back Picnic for the students.**

**“Sweetheart Royalty”**
Selected in a vote by their peers were King Jacob Bieber and Queen Kimberly Beckler; candy and stuffed animals topped off the day.

**“In the Spirit”**
Christmas Program featured both group and individual vocal and instrumental music.
Forensics Season off to a good start

By Candice Lee, Forensics Coach

The forensics (oral interpretation) season started in February as 2 students selected their events and began practicing their pieces. The first meet was held on March 7 at SDSBVI in conjunction with a week-end of swimming and goal ball competition against students from the Minnesota Academy for the Blind in Faribault, MN. Volunteers who helped with judging and timing on Friday evening included Mark Krogstrand, Marje Kaiser, Penny Krogstrand, and Jane Mundschenk.

This year’s schedule included a SDSBVI forensics assembly on April 9th. This event is open to students of all ages at the school and gives them an opportunity to try out public speaking. Wade Turner (Custer), and Analis Dannen (Sioux Falls), members of the traveling team will also compete in Faribault, MN on April 11 and at the North Central Conference Championship Meet in Jacksonville, IL on April 18. Students will be competing against students from 10 other schools for blind and visually impaired in the following states: MN, OH, TN, KY, WS, IA, KS, IL, IN, and MO.

Wade Turner, a student in the transition to life program, will be participating for his 7th year. He started in the 7th grade with demonstration only and has competed in the North Central Conference Championship Meets for 6 years, which is the maximum number of years a student is eligible for conference competition. This year he is participating in local meets in Aberdeen and in Faribault, MN. He will be traveling to Jacksonville, IL to compete in swimming. Analis Dannen, a sophomore will be competing in local meets and in the North Central Conference Championship for her 3rd year.

These competitions are highly competitive and are a great opportunity for students to socialize with other teens with vision impairments, and to visit places they have not seen before. On the road trip students will be staying in Hannibal, MO crossing the Mississippi river, and traveling to Springfield, MO.

Wolves Hoops

The NSU Men’s Basketball Team hosted a pizza party for students and residential staff. Students, who attend home games at the Barnett Center, enjoyed meeting the players “up close and personal!” Time was also spent playing Goalball and the “Power Showdown” Game. A special thanks to Coach Don Meyer, Carmen Meyer, assistant coaches, and all the ballplayers for a special night!
Donations
The School would like to thank the following individuals or businesses for their recent contributions.

**Monetary Donations**
- Brookings Noon Lions, Brookings SD
- Eye Opener Lions Club, Huron SD
- Rosebud WELCA, Lemmon SD (student activities)

**Miscellaneous Donations**
- Northern State University (complimentary passes to sporting events)
- Aberdeen Lions Club (birthday balloons and gift certificates)
- Lois Powers, Missouri City, TX (Campbell’s Soup Labels)
- Summer Scepaniak, Aberdeen SD (Book: Rubbadubbers Make a Splash)
- Trevon Rinesmith, Aberdeen SD (7 electronic keyboards)
- Dakota Heritage Chorus, Aberdeen SD (tickets)
- Yelduz Shrine Temple, Aberdeen SD (circus tickets)
- Coca-Cola Company (PowerAde and water for Track, Forensics, Goalball, & Swim Meets)
- NSU Men’s Basketball Team (pizza party)
- Aberdeen Lions, Lioness, NSU Lions Clubs (student Christmas party)
- NSU Student Lions Club (Valentine’s party)
- Aberdeen Lions Club/ Dacotah Bank (two 40” computer monitors)
- Pheasant Country 103 Radio Station (CDs)
- Coca-Cola Company (door prizes for Christmas party)
- Don and Carmen Meyer, Aberdeen SD (treats)
- Aberdeen Lions Club (tickets to “Magic Show”)
- AirDrives, San Diego CA (AirDrives headphones for K-Sonar electronic travel aids)

**Summer Program**
During the months of June and July students will be able to take part in an exciting summer program at the SDSBVI. Emphasis will be placed on training in the “Expanded Core Curriculum” areas.
In addition to the traditional academic subjects, students who are blind or visually impaired need to learn specific skills which address their individual learning modes to better help prepare them for independence. During our summer program we include the following experiences.

- Recreation and Leisure Skills
- Self-Determination Skills
- Sensory Efficiency Skills
- Social Interaction Skills
- Assistive Technology
- Career Education
- Compensatory Academic Skills
- Independent Living Skills
- Orientation and Mobility

**Tactile Art Display**
Sara Christensen-Blair, Northern State University Professor and the members of her Design I art class provided the School with more “touchable” art. As part of a class requirement and with a focus on service learning, each student creates an art piece featuring textures that can be touched. NSU artist Amanda Madden’s artwork was selected by the students to become part of the school’s permanent art collection. The South Dakota Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired provided the funding to purchase her art.
NATIONAL BRAILLE PRESS
Dr. Seuss 2008 Calendar By Dr. Seuss—For All ages!
Throughout his life, Dr. Seuss had two goals - to make us laugh, and to make us think. He said, “I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells….and that enables you to laugh at life’s realities.” Once again, Dr. Seuss puts his own unique spin on an National Braille Press Favorite - an annual print/braille calendar! This 2008 print/braille calendar includes twelve scenes and quotes from Dr. Seuss’s books, each providing laughter and insight to help keep you inspired throughout the year. The braille is included on clear plastic sheets that go right over the print pages, and all pictures are described. And as always, the calendar features a Special Bonus - a sheet of sixty full-color stickers of Dr. Seuss’s more famous characters to mark birthdays, appointments, and other important days. To order the 2008 Dr. Seuss print/braille calendar, and before they sell out, go to: http://www.nbp.org/ic/nbp/2008SEUSS.html.

STUDENT CORNER

“Why I Like Snowmobiling”
Hi, my name is Jordan and I am 10 years old. Snowmobiling is so much fun, where do I start? One of the best things about snowmobiling is that you get to go fast and do jumps. I also like the idea of driving across the frozen lakes and other places that you can’t drive a vehicle. Snowmobiling is also something that I get to do with just my dad, Ron. I have 2 dads, but Ron is the only one who takes me snowmobiling and we have a lot of fun when we do this together. Mom and I just got our own snowmobile last winter (which we will be sharing), and as long as I learn the safety rules and regulations then I might be allowed to ride by myself some day. See, I will never be able to drive a vehicle because I have had cornea transplants and am visually impaired, but if I ride safely with my dad, I will be able to ride snowmobile. That means a lot to me. So, snowmobiling is all about having fun and getting together with friends and family—if they snowmobile. But it is also about safety and playing by the rules and staying on the trails (which I also help my dad do every year—that is fun to do too). Jordan is a 3rd Grade student at Hamlin Elementary School in Hayti, SD. As a result of writing this essay, Jordan won the “Youth Snowmobiler of the Year” award. (South Dakota Sno Plainsman, Published by the South Dakota Snowmobile Association, Editor: Mary Anne Grabow, December 2007)

Parent Tips for Reading to Your Child

- Vary the length and subject matter of your readings.
- Read books that you enjoy. Your child will know if you’re faking it.
- Before you begin, always read the name of the book and the author and illustrator, no matter how many times you have read the book.
- The first time you read a book, discuss the illustration on the cover. “What do you think this book is going to be about?”
- The art of listening is an acquired one. It must be taught and cultivated gradually.
- Don’t get discouraged if your child has trouble paying attention.
- As you read, keep your child involved by occasionally asking, “What do you think is going to happen next?”
- Reading aloud does not come naturally to most people. To do it successfully and with ease, you must practice.
(Prepared by Miss Mehlhaff, 1st grade teacher, May Overby Elementary School, Aberdeen Public Schools)

Books Featuring Characters with Blindness and Visual Impairment

Happy Birthday, Grampie by Susan Pearson Grades K-3  Martha takes great care to make just the right gift for her grandfather who has lost his vision.
One of Us by Nikki Amdur Grades 3-6  When Nora moves to a new town she becomes friends with Jerry, who is blind.
Can You Feel the Thunder by Lynn E. McElffrest Grades 7-12  Thirteen-year-old Mic Parsons struggles with mixed feelings about his deaf and blind sister while at the same time he makes his way through the turmoil of junior high.
"Project Skills" Work Experience Program

By Mr. Krogstrand and Sue Birrenkott

Based on IEP / Multi-Disciplinary Team collaborations and recommendations, and having an active file with SD Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired, as a part of their transition program planning, SDSBVI students age 16 and older have the opportunity to be an active participant in the “world of work” through the “Project Skills” work experience program. This process leading to off campus work experiences is typically preceded by on campus work experiences at the SDSBVI, as well as class instruction in a variety of related skills. After the student has identified areas of interest to them for possible work experiences, SDSBVI Transition Specialist, Sue Birrenkott, works with area businesses and employers to develop a job opportunity for the student, which potentially includes job shadowing on site by the student, interview of the student by the employer, and general information sharing. It is a significant challenge to convince employers to give a blind/visually impaired student an opportunity, even with the support of a job coach and payment of wages by the program.

A student participating in “Project Skills” may work up to 250 hours over a year’s time, receiving minimum wage. They are required by program guidelines to change jobs each year, but may do so more frequently to experience a variety of work settings. The ultimate goal of the program is to have the student experience a variety of work experiences, and if all goes well, earn the opportunity to be independently employed without program support.

The student may typically begin work with a “job coach” (but not always) who helps them in orientation to the job site, the job skills, and other aspects of the job opportunity. The goal of the job coach is to “step away” over time, allowing the student to work as independently as possible. The student is responsible for setting up their own transportation to/from work, keeping their work schedule, and all other typical work responsibilities.

This year current SDSBVI students have had the following work experiences / opportunities:

- Derek Turner: Aramark food service, student union at NSU
- Wade Turner: @ Aberdeen Convention and Visitor’s Bureau and SD National Guard offices
- Analis Dannen: @ Bethesda Home w/day care program
- Lacey Killingsworth: @ Bethesda Home w/housekeeping department
- Chantell Heath: @ NSU School of Business, data entry via computer

This work experience allows the students to determine what jobs they like/don’t like, build experience and skills for potential employers following the completion of their school experiences at SDSBVI, and builds on community participation and social interaction skills, not to mention earning a paycheck, developing a budget, and managing their own money, time, and interests.
Sports and Activities

Track and Field

The track meets found the students competing against a strong field from schools for the blind. Coaches Bob McLaughlin and Jodi Carlsgaard were very pleased with the students’ efforts and how they represented the SDSBVI.

Minnesota State Academy for the Blind Track Meet: (MN, IA, WI, SD, KS)

Analis Dannen: 600 M (3:43.62), Long Jump (3’4”), Triple Jump (9’8”), Shot Put (0’5”); Lacey Killingsworth: 60M (15.43), 400M (2:08.12), Long Jump (2’3”), Shot Put (11’2.5”); Derek Turner: 60M (13.10), Shot Put (19’10.5”); Wade Turner: 60M (11.82), 3-Consecutive Jump (18’-7”); Waldon Halverson: 1600M (7:16.0), Long Jump (12’8/5”), Triple Jump (26’6”), Shot Put (23’7”)

All School Track Meet

Wade Turner: (Class A) 3-Consecutive Jump (20’0”) Standing Long Jump (6’7”), Standing Long Jump (19’4”), 60 M Run (11.66); Analis Dannen: (Class A) Shot Put (10’7”), Standing Long Jump (4’-8.5”), Standing Triple Jump (10’1”), 60 M Run (14.5), 600 M Run (3:52.0); Lacey Killingsworth: (Class C) Shot Put (12’2”), 400M Dash (2:24.0), 60 M Run (18.60), Running Long Jump (5’2.5”); Waldon Halverson: (Class C) Running Triple Jump (27’2”), Shot Put (24’0”), 400M Dash (1:27.0), 60 M Run (9.94), Running Long Jump (13’7.5”), Emery Long Crow: (Class C) Shot Put (15’3/5”), 400M Dash (2:16.0), 60 M Run (16.18), Running Long Jump (2’3”); Clara Wren: (Class C) 60 M Run (3:11.0), Standing Long Jump (2’9”), Kimberly Beckler: (Class A) Standing Long Jump (2’1”) Softball Throw (19’9”), 60 M Run (32.49); Mariah DeMarrias: (Class C) Standing Long Jump (33’”), Softball Throw (28’4”), 60 M Run (21.22); Jeremy Bruns: (Class A) Standing Long Jump (2’1/75”), Softball Throw (19’-6.5”), 60 M Run (1:23.0); Randy Baseler: (Class A) Standing Long Jump (2’3”), Softball Throw (35’10”), 60 M Run (48.62); Trevor Rinesmith: (Class A) Standing Long Jump (1’10.75”), Tennis Ball Throw (6’10.5”), 60 M Run (28.75); Grady Schlosser: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (10’5”), Tennis Ball Throw (13’4”), 60 M Run (21.99); Andrew Fodness: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (3’10.75”), Softball Throw (32’5”), 60 M Run (16.59); Johnny Sauer: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (2’6”) Softball Throw (20’0”), 60 M Run (23.50); Jacob Bieber: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (10’5”), Tennis Ball Throw (4’1.5”), 60 M Run (54.02); Riley Schaffer: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (1’8.5”), Tennis Ball Throw (4’1”), 60 M Run (26.03); Leonna Winters: (Class B) Standing Long Jump (3’0”), Tennis Ball Throw (10’3”), 60 M Run (18.75); Shane Hoffman: (Class B) Tennis Ball Throw (2’5”), Kris-Lynn Zahm: (Class A) Tennis Ball Throw (2’0”); Clara Wren: (Class B) Softball Throw (14’5.5”), 60 M Run (22.0). A very SPECIAL “thank you” to our volunteer meet helpers from the NSU Adaptive PE class as well as Hub Area Technical School!

Bowling Fun

The vocal group of Analis Dannen, Chantell Heath, Wade Turner, Derek Turner under the direction of music instructor, Phyllis Heier, sang “The Star Spangled Banner” to kick off the festivities! The “Special Olympians” got their season underway by participating in the Regional and State Bowling Tournaments at the Village Bowl in Aberdeen. Our bowlers results at the Regional Meet included: 1st Place: Emery Long Crow, Kimberly Beckler, Lacey Killingsworth, Mariah DeMarrias, Johnny Sauer, Jeremy Bruns; 2nd Place: Trevor Rinesmith, Riley Schaffer, Clara Wren; 3rd Place: Jacob Bieber, Shane Hoffman. State Meet results included 1st Place (Gold Medal): Riley Schaffer, Johnny Sauer, Lacey Killingsworth; 2nd Place (Silver Medal): Jeremy Bruns, Clara Wren, Emery Long Crow, Mariah DeMarrias; 3rd Place (Bronze Medal): Kimberly Beckler, Jacob Bieber, Trevor Rinesmith; 4th Place (Ribbon): Shane Hoffman. Congratulations to one and all, with a special thanks to Coach Tevan Fischbach for all of her work not only with our students but with the committee for the event games as well. A GREAT time was had at the “Opening Ceremonies” of karaoke and dancing and a wonderful banquet and special awards at the Ramada in Aberdeen on Saturday night topped off a great weekend! Once again our students living up to the Special Olympics oath “Let Me Win, But If I Cannot Win, Let Me Be Brave in the Attempt!”
Move For Heart
The students, staff, and NSU students enjoyed an afternoon of exercising and raised over $1128.25 for the American Heart Association. Everyone had a very good workout! The overall top fundraiser was Derek Turner, who brought in $644.

Winter Fun!
The students and staff enjoyed an afternoon of ice skating and sledding at the Holum Expo Center.

SPURS  Students enjoying riding a horse. “Therapeutic horsemanship” is an activity enjoyed by our students in Adaptive PE and Physical Therapy.
HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR PIONEER?
The Pioneer is available in four other formats: 1) large print, 2) Braille, and 3) e-mail. We ask you to return this form if you want to change your Pioneer format or if you have an address change.

NAME: ______________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP: ______________________________________________________________

CHANGES: ___________________________________________________________________

Return to: Dawn LaMee, Pioneer Editor
South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 423 17th Avenue SE, Aberdeen SD 57401-7699 Phone # (605) 626-2580 or Toll Free 1-888-275-3814
Fax # (605) 626-2607 or E-mail: lameed@sdsbvi.northern.edu
*************************************************************************

The Pioneer: Volume 45, No 1 - Fall/Winter 2007-08 The Pioneer is published twice a year by the South Dakota School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 423 17th Avenue SE, Aberdeen SD 57401-7699. Printing costs are donated by the South Dakota Foundation for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Bye …. See you tomorrow!